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JOSEPHINE AND MARY

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TO THE  
True English READER.

Shows the King of London has very lately been  
the late Discharge of the Town, by means of two  
State House Writers, the Post-Boy, and Flying-  
Post; and that for a question between our two  
countries that has been flying; I hope a fly-  
ing may give Liberty to understand this Nation, and  
if they think to have justice to read this flying  
Relation, I'll give my word, that fairly I'll involve  
both sides (who did their misdeeds and unheard of  
Cruelty) to their full Content and Satisfaction.

[illegible]

How to satisfy such as would rightly understand  
how this great and populous City of London could be  
destroyed; they may be contented to see their way  
so far back as the Restoration of King Charles the  
Second; and from thence I shall trace this Barbarity  
step by step, till I have unriddled this great Mystery,  
which by the English has been so long kept a Secret to  
the World.

And first of all I shall show, how several English  
Mahals and Traytors before had been graciously par-  
don'd, for their unnatural Rebellion and Murder of  
the best of Kings; and that the said Persons were

Protestants, not only in Religion, but also in their  
Loyalty to their Prince, following the King and the  
rulers, but still more, and when the Nation is  
might be called to an account for his actions, and  
that these very People of this Nation were a Body  
of Protestants, for the Protestants, Protestants,  
Independence, and were all very free of their  
conscience Protestants, and were all very free of their  
this great Nation, that they still were it to the  
very Day, they were in the hands of the  
People (interest) called Quakers.

[illegible]

All matters being thus settled in the Year 1661,  
 it was thought very convenient, that a Club of these  
 Whiggish Protestants, should be set up in London,  
 (and many Contributions there were for such a glorious  
 Undertaking) and a fatal Correspondency was held  
 and established through England, Scotland, and  
 Ireland, who met from time to time in secret how  
 to make, execute, and send up to the Club of Oxford a  
 all their Resolutions, or Collections of several Resolu-  
 tions, or pretended Judgments, Privileges and Appre-  
 hensions. And these the said Club were to undertake  
 and put in order, and several were imprinted Cla-  
 rifically, in the Years 1661, 1662, &c. which the  
 Party headed about the Kingdom, on purpose to de-  
 bauch the People from their Allegiance, and in order  
 to stir up the Hearts of the People against his Majesty's  
 Person and Government, and if possible, to ferment  
 and raise their intended Rebellions in these King-  
 doms.





**K**ING Charles II. was scarcely restor'd to the Crown of his Ancestors, and hardly seated in his Throne, but (to quiet the Minds of all Men) he pass'd an Act of Oblivion and general Pardon; from the Favour of which, his undeserved Clemency excepted none but those that acted or sat as his Father's Judges, besides Sir Harry Vane, Colonel Lambert, Hugh Peters, and two Persons in Disguise on the Scaffold; nay, and even the Number of the pretended Judges, those who did not sit on the Day of Sentence, nor signed the bloody Warrant for Execution, had their Lives spared, as also had Lambert.

Yet this had no effect upon them, for as those who justly suffered, shew'd no signs of Remorse or Repentance, so most of them gloried in their Villany, and justified the Cause, and the Authority by which they acted; and their surviving Friends insolently publish'd to the World their Pleadings, Prayers and Speeches, to all the Advantage that the Spirit of Hell could invent, with an intolerable Insult on the Civil Government.

This Temper of theirs plainly shew'd what was to be expected from them, and accordingly Discoveries were made of some of their Plot in the very Year of the Restoration; Colonel Hales, and several others were seized for their Treason, and though Hales escaped them, yet he was executed in Monmouth's Rebellion.

These Designs put the Government upon their Guard, and having secured Colonel Overton, Cornet Day, Major Allen, and other Leaders of a Branch of the Party, most zealous for the Work, who would have no King but Jesus; yet a Congregation of them meeting by the King's Indulgence in Coleman-street, did on Sunday Evening, Jan. 6th, 1660, break into an open Rebellion, under the Conduct of Vane their Preacher, & John Cooper. They were not above 60 in Number, but well arm'd, and being very briskly attack'd by the Train & Bands, retired under Favour of the Night into Cannon-street; on the Ninth they appear'd again, but were soon totally routed, divers of them slain, and Vane their chief Captain, with several others taken.

On the 17th, Vane and Ninetown of his Confederates were arraign'd and condemn'd at the Old Bailey, being all found guilty of High Treason. And on the 19th instant, Vane and Hodgkins were executed in Coleman-street, and Prichard and Omden at White-chapel Road, and several others of them about 9 or 10 were on the 21st executed in several other Places of the City. And thus ended this Rebellion of the Whiggish Saints. *Vid. Comp. History of England, Vol. 9.*

This of Vane's was indeed so wild a Project, that I cannot attribute the Affair itself to the whole Party, who pass under the Denomination of Whigs, but was certainly a Branch of the main Design, only the over hot Zeal of some Enthusiasts, fired the Powder before the grand Mine was ready to spring.

The Parliament now sitting, the Convocation also, and the Licentiousness of the Puritanic Sects increasing, made the distressed Church apply themselves to the King and Parliament for Relief. It was Enacted, that the Sacrament of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the Publick Prayers of the Church should be used as heretofore; the Fanatics all crying out against it, and refusing to conform; yet no previous Condescensions of the King could oblige them.

The Clemency of the Prince was maliciously interpreted by the Sects; and the Power of this indulging Monarch was grievous to these Fanatics; Nor had the King granted so much to Traytors, but that made them still bolder, and thought they might take to themselves more Liberty, and the broken sacred Monarchy even demanded of the Son, the same Liberty of Religion which had undone the Father, *Vid. Tracts of Eng. Compil'd, fol. 72.*

The Preachers by their seditious Sermons had conjur'd up the Spirit of Rebellion in the Minds of their Hearers all over the Kingdom, that the Influence of the Rabble grew so great, that there was nothing but a mustering of Parties, a boasting of their Strength (as at this Day) and a polling of Heads amongst the Factions, just as if they had been ready in the Name of the Lord to fight his Anointed, *Vid. ditto Hist. ditto Fol.*

These their audacious Insolencies rais'd the

People into several Rebellions; one was detected in *Devonshire*, headed by some pretending Anabaptists; other Discoveries of the same Nature in *Cheshire*, *Lancashire*, *Derbyshire*, *Staffordshire*, *Worcestershire*, *Oxfordshire*, *Hertfordshire*, and other Counties; and in *Wales* divers Oliverian Officers were taken, and another Cabal of them taken in *Wiltshire*, viz. *Parker*, *Read*, *Henrich*, and others, *Vide ditto Comp. Hist. V. 3.*

But this Year a darker and more dangerous Conspiracy was hatched, the same being the Cause of this as of all other Plots; to wit, a bold and obstinate Licentiousness in Religion.

Many of all Sides were resolved for Mischief, who were concerned in this most wicked and barbarous Conspiracy, they being several Officers of *Cromwell's* late disbanded Army, Members of the late *Rump Parliament*, and many who were turn'd out of the King's and Churches Banihs, which they had sacrilegiously purchased. And a secret Committee at *London* had the Direction of their Councils and Actions.

These insolently plot on in the Year 1662, and at the very Height of Execution was miraculously directed; several of them taken, and many of the Conspirators fled out of the Reach of Justice. The chief Design of their Villany, was to kill the King, and the Duke of *Tork*, murder the Duke of *Albemarle*, set Fire to the City of *London*, seize the Tower, rife the Exchange, and through the Bowels of the Nation, drive on a new Fanatical Government: This Plot was discovered by the Reverend Mr. *W. B.* These Criminals, viz. *Thomas Treg*, *George Phillips*, *Francis Stubbs*, *John Hind*, *John Sillors*, and *Nathaniel Gills*, were upon a fair and legal Tryal found guilty of High Treason, at Justice-Hall in the Old Bailey, *London*, on and 11. Decemb. 1662. One of them pleading guilty, two had Mercy shewed, viz. *Hind*, and *Sillors*, but the rest were executed at *Tyburn*, 22. Decemb. acknowledging at their Deaths the Crimes for which they suffered, *Vide the Tryal, entitled, A Brief Narrative of that Remarkable Wagny, &c. Printed for Charles Adams, Anno 1662.*

Nor did these Discoveries and just Executions deter the Faction, but as fast as the Heads of this Hydra were cut off, more sprouted up, and still plotted on to advance the Good Old Cause, and took up Arms for the restoring of their old Commonwealth. And in the Year 1663, another Rebellion gathered in the North; they began there, because it was nearer to *Scotland*,

whose Agents were employed among the Brethren there, as well as in *London*, and all Counties throughout *England*; they administer an Oath of Secrecy, and had agreed to rise on the 12th of October, and accordingly a good Number of them met in *Farnly Wood*, and gave out, *White-Hall*, the Tower, *Nottingham*, *Gloucester* and *Newcastle* should be seized, and the most convenient Passages over *Trent*, *Stroyn*, *Fine*, and *Don* in *Lincolnshire* for a Sea Port to receive Succours out of *Holland*, (the secret Agreement between the Whigs and the Dutch is here plainly discovered) in order to free themselves from Excise and Subsidies, to re-establish a Gospel Ministry, to restore the Long Parliament, and to reform all Orders and Degrees of Men in this Nation. The Direction of this and all other Plots was under a standing Council of six Persons in *London*, who received all their Advice from another standing Council of six in *Holland*, *Vide Comp. Hist. Vol. 3. Health's Chron.*

But some of their principal Contrivers being secured, a Commission of Oyer and Terminer was sent to *Tork*, where 17 of them were try'd, and 15 of them condemn'd and executed at *Tork*, *London*, and other Places; most of them Conventicle Preachers, confessing several the Facts; others insolently behaving themselves, particularly one *Cotton*, protesting in the Face of the Court, that he valu'd his Life no more than the Judge did his Handkerchief. And in *Ireland* and *Scotland* they attempted the same thing, but were severally executed there according to their Deserts, *Vide ditto Hist. ditto V.*

Although the Design of this Rebellion was so widely extended, and so fully discovered and acknowledged, several of the Faction had the harden'd Front, with a right Whiggish Assurance, to tell us it was all a sham Plot, a mere State Contrivance of the Government, transfused by them, and Forgers on purpose raised to butcher innocent and harmless People, that wou'd live peaceably and quietly in this Kingdom, if it were not for a Parcel of little Ministers of State, who have a mind to be thought great Politicians, in order to become the Prince's darling Favourites, that they might hook in vast Revenues and Treasures for their great Services done to the Nation, *Vide Lordlow's Mem. Tom. 3. Fol. 118.*

Says another nameless Author, his Majesty King *Charles the Second* being restor'd to his Royal Throne, all those Storms with which our State had been oppressed, were suddenly hushed



hollid into a quiet Calm, &c. But some revengeful Spirits of great Interest were resolved to give the Puritans no Quarter, and they set on foot a sham Presbyterian Plot in sixteen Counties, *Vide History of Popish Plot*, Printed for Richard Janeway, 1682. fol. 15, 16.

Now what will plainer confute such Scories as these, but a Testimony under their own Hands, that these Conspiracies were true Plots, and not forged ones; as for example, Mr. Ludlow in his Memoirs, says, That about this time their Friends in all Parts began to entertain Hopes they might be again employed to secure their Country from Servitude. And that in this Posture of Affairs, Colonel Algernon Sidney, who had for some time resided in Italy, thought convenient to draw nearer home, that, if an Opportunity should offer, he might not be wanting in his Duty and the Publick Service. He returned to winter in *Flanders*; and that passing through Switzerland, he made a Visit to the *Haguedam* Ambassadors there, staying with them three Weeks, asserting them of his Affection and Friendship, and no way declining them and their Cause, *Vid. Lud. Mem. Tom. 3. Fol. 118.*

Now what could give Encouragement to these Hopes, and occasion these Designs, but their Correspondence with their Fellow Traitors here, from whom they received Accounts no doubt of the Design, which they would the Success of, wherein they were disappointed by an overruling Providence, and the Vigilance of those at the Helm; who saw much to be done by, to prevent the like Designs for the future, in the next Session of Parliament passed the first Act for the suppressing of Conventions, which they truly look'd upon as Seeds of Sedition and Rebellion, and so have continued to this Day.

Again, Ludlow, who boasts that he had the Honour to be one of the King's Judges, tells us, that by means of this War some of their Friends conceiving great Hopes of the Restoration of the Commonwealth, enter'd into a Treaty with divers principal Ministers of the States of Holland, for procuring some Forces to join with their Party in England against the Common Enemy, (by which, he then meant the King and all his loyal Subjects) his Concurrence being desired; he it seems stood off, on account of the Behaviour of the Dutch to *Barkstead*, *Obay*, and *Corbis*, three of the Regicides, whom they had delivered up to Sir George Downing, then Ambassador there, who sent them to England to re-

ceive the Reward of their Villanies, which made him apprehend the same Usage, in case of an Accommodation with England, *ibid. Pol. 165.*

Ludlow received a Letter from Mr. Jay, then at Amsterdam, inviting him to quit Switzerland, that he might be instrumental in the Service of his Country; he being certainly inform'd, that considerable Numbers in England, Scotland and Ireland, would appear in the Cause, and such Measures taken as gave great hopes of Success, *ib. fol. 166, 167.*

But to convince the Nation that these Plots were Facts and Truths, and not Fancies, we have to give a Detail of some of their Predictions and Judgements which they printed, foretelling these aforesaid Rebellions that would happen, being designed by these malignant Whiggish Prognosticators.

It seems to keep up the Hearts of the Scots, and to stir 'em up to an insurrection against his Majesty's Government, in order to raise a Rebellion in his Kingdom, a Club of Whiggish Dissenters was set up in London, and a secret Correspondency held through England, Scotland and Ireland, in the Years 1660, 1, 2. &c. wherein they published several Relations of pretended Judgments, Prodigious and Apparitions in the behalf of themselves, to keep up their tottering Cause, which after the Restoration stood in need of all their Strength and Policy to keep it from sinking. I say, they were printed in Opposition to the Established Church, in order to draw in the aforesaid Rebellions, which they had so often predicted, by sending the said Church as odious in the Eyes of the People, as Popery it self. I shall refer you to the Books for the Proof of what I say, and shall only in this place make use of such their Predictions, foretelling of the War or Rebellion which I have made so visible to you before.

*The Whiggish Signs and Apparitions, foretelling their Rebellion, and the Dutch War; as you will find in two Pieces, entituled, Mirabilis Annis, 1 and 2, Printed privately in 1661, and 1662, and nobody knows by whom.*

*Prodigious Signs and Apparitions denoting Wars, Ships, &c.*

*The Likeness of a Ship seen in the Air at Stratford by Bow near London, in Sept. 1666. A. M. B. 1. fol. 2. these relate to the Dutch. Two Meteors like a Breamer, or a Dolphin, seen.*

seen in Woodstreet, 12 Octob. 1660. ditto L. fol. 5. means Van Trump's Broom at his Top-Mast-Head.

The form of a compleat Ship seen in the Air, 23 Aug. 1661. A. M. 2. fol. 2. This no question meant the Dutch War with England.

Now for Whiggish Armies, or their Rebellions against the King.

Armies seen in the Heavens, engaged in Fight against each other. A. M. 1. fol. 14. 1660.

Strange and terrible Noise heard in the Air, at beating of Drums, the Reports of great and small Guns, in Jan. 1660. ditto L. fol. 21.

The form of a Town well fortified seen in the Air, 22 April 1661, A. M. 2. fol. 2.

Men and Horses seen in the Air engaging against one another, 12 Jan. 1661. ditto L. fol. 6.

The Noise of beating a Drum, and of clattering of Armour, and the Groans of dying Men heard in the Air, 1 Sept. 1661. ditto L. fol. 8.

Dreadful Noise like the Report of great Guns, with the beating of Drums heard in the Air, 1 May 1661. ditto L. fol. 20.

The Form of a Lion, a Unicorn, and a Bear, together with an Army of Horse and Foot, &c. 29 May 1661. ditto L. fol. 22.

The form of a Cassin, together with two Armies seen in the Heavens, encountering each other, 22 Jan. 1661. ditto L. fol. 24.

Very sweet and melodious Musick heard, and the form of several Armies of Men, Youth, and Children, seen marching in the Air with great Swiftnes, 14 July 1661, ditto L. fol. 40.

An Army of Horse seen in Wales, then vanish'd, 20 Decemb. 1661. ditto L. fol. 48.

A Troop of Horse at Nottingham, 28 Jan. 1661. ditto L. fol. 50.

A Party of Horse near Dorchester, 19 Jan. 1661. ditto L. fol. 60.

Another Troop near Sir George Broun's, ditto fol. 66.

Now pray what were these Apparitions, Prodigies and Judgments printed privately, and handed about to the Party for, if it was not with design to foretel, and also to usher in, under the Umbrage of Miracles, their intended villanous Plots and Conspiracies; and these encouraged the ignorant Multitude, under their sedicious Preachers and Leaders, to commit these unnatural Rebellions against his Majesty's Person and Government; and I think they are

too visible to be deny'd by the most audacious of their Party. Therefore I proceed to the next Head, being

### The Dutch War.

Our dear Confederated Dutch Friends, finding that their English Rebellious Allies could do no great Feats at all, but were every where discovered, catch'd, and hang'd, resolved to shew themselves in their proper Colours, and thought within themselves, while they diverted the English by their Arms in another Stream, the Government would not be so much at Liberty as too curious, to make Inspection among these Saints in Confederacy. And in order therunto, their High Mightinesses break forth into a War with England, and the Laws being silent amongst the Noise of Arms, the Domestick Calamity grew stronger amongst our Whigs and Regicides, so that the Authority of the Justices of the Peace not being able to prevail against the Obstinacy of that Headstrong and Factions Rabble; the evil catch'd like Wild-fire, and all future Remedies seemed Posthumous and unseasonable, *Vid. His Troubles of Eng. compos'd, fol. 73, 74.*

The great Injury done by the Dutch to the English Merchants, having for a long time pass'd unrevenge'd, did now occasion great Grievances and Complaints at London; that (besides the detaining of the Island of *Polo*, which they were obliged to deliver up by the Articles of Peace) they took a great many English ships upon the Coast of *India* and *Africa*, and making Prizes of the Ships Goods, made the *Summen* Prisoners, and added Cruelty and Scolding to their Injustice. — They block up many Ports of the *Indies* (which the English had long possess'd) with Men of War, and having unjustly intercepted the English Trade, they sold to other Nations at home at dear Rates, the Commodities which they had for a small matter bought in the *Indies*.

But a new Cause of Quarrel, not heard of till then, happened through the Treachery of the Dutch. — The Year before, the States General having been oppress'd by the frequent Pyracies of the *Algerines*, by Ambassadors make earnest Application to the King of England; that joining his Fleet with theirs, he would help to revenge the Injuries of those Infidels. Nor was the King wanting to contribute to the Safety of his Subjects, and of all Christendom, but sent Vice-Admiral *Lawson*, an expert Sea

Com-



Commander, with a well appointed Fleet, to join and assist the Fleet commanded by *De Ruyter*.

Whilst *Lawson* was wholly taken up in fighting and pursuing the Pyrates Ships (of which he had sunk and burnt many) upon the Coast of *Barbary*. *De Ruyter* gave him the Slip, and by Orders from the States directed his Course to *Guiny*, where falling upon the English, who were secure, and neither expected nor deserved any such thing, he committed no less Robberies upon us, than he pretended to revenge on the *Algerians*, but with far greater Treachery.

The News of so base an Action being freshly brought to *London*, so incensed all People, that the King, highly offended, commanded all the Dutch Ships in the Ports of *England* to be stopp'd; and all farther Treaties of Pacification being laid aside, both Nations prepare for a War, *Vide his Treat. of Eng. p. 3. fol. 73, 74, 75, 76.*

During the Preludes of the approaching War, the Dutch, a more contumelious than formidable Enemy, enflamed the Rage and Hatred of the English People, by several scurrilous Libels, Medals, and many base and satyrical Pictures, according to the innate Insolency, and barbarous Vanity of the People.

By one Picture (they did basely represent the English Nation) a Lyon was depicted without a Tail, with three Crowns reversed.

Another was a Picture of many Mastiff Dogs, whose Ears were cropped, and Tails cut off, *Vide Dr. Collins Survey of Maseavy, Cap. 26.*

In dishonour to the King and the English Nation, they trailed the English Colours defiled with their Excrements, through the Streets, and at the Stern of their Boats.

Whereby Foreigners were perswaded that our Navy were totally destroyed by the Dutch, and that they had gain'd the Sovereignty of the Sea.

Other curious Prints were divulged every where, of the English *Phaeton's* being overthrown, not by the Thunderbolts of *Jove*, but Valour of the United Provinces.

It seems *Britannia* or old *England*, was no longer seated on her Globe, with her Feet on the Sea, but prostrate on the dry Land, *Holland* being mounted upon an Elephant, and trampling upon her. Also a Boar cutting off the Tails of the *Mastiffs*, whereof some ran away, others sat licking their Sores, others stood barking at a distance.

Another Boar was curiously employing his

Hatchet, to kill a multitude of Adders, with this Inscription; *The English Dogs and Vipers destroyed by the Valour of the Hollanders, in such manner, that they never shall give the World any further Trouble, Vide Stubs's farther Justification, &c. fol. 2, 3.*

And least we should stand in need of some of these extraordinary Pictures of the Dutch, the *Flying-Post* has supply'd us with another.

He tells us that some of their wanton Limners drew King *Charles the Second* with his Pockets turn'd inside out, and his Mistress groping his Cod-piece, *Vide 23 Sept.*

This was when there was a secret Understanding betwixt the Dutch and the Faction in the Whiggish Parliament, while they had agreed not to give him a Penny of Money, unless he would consent to have dethron'd himself, by giving away his Prerogative, *Vide Outer Picture K. J. fol. 22.*

Now was the Royal Fleet ready to sail, divided into three Squadrons, the first commanded by the Duke of *Treb. Lord High Admiral of England*; the second by Prince *Rupert*, and the third by the Earl of *Southwich*.

Many Persons of great Quality went Volunteers, to try their Fortune with the Duke: The Fleet consisted of about 100 Men of War, having on Board about 30000 Soldiers and Seamen; and on the 22d of April weigh'd Anchor, and with joyful Huzzas, full Sails, and flying Streamers, sail'd over to the Coast of *Holland*, and came to an Anchor before the *Ten*, and waited one whole Month for the Appearance of the Enemy, to no manner of purpose, so went home, and anchor'd their Fleet at *Harwich*, till they came out.

But now the Commanders of the Dutch Fleet moved, they were above 100 Sail of Men of War, in seven Divisions, *Opdam* their Admiral, *Trump*, *Cartener*, *Schraamp*, *Stilling Wiff*, *Cornelisz* and *John Bouterfloo*; *Opdam* and these commanded in chief.

The Duke being advertis'd by his Scouts that the Enemy approached, prepar'd to engage, and on the 23d of June, the Fight began. The first Shot was fir'd from Prince *Rupert's* Squadron, and both Fleets engage and fall in *Pellamell*, and in conclusion, a complete and glorious Victory was obtain'd by his Majesty over the Dutch, wherein above thirty Capital Ships were taken and destroy'd, and near Eight Thousand Men kill'd and taken Prisoners.

Persons of Note of the English side, were the Earl of *Falmouth*, *Portland* and *Marlborough*,

and the Lord Muskerry; and about the 19th instant, Two Thousand Sixty and Three Dutch Prisoners were brought to Colchester, whereof 13 of them were Commanders.

His Royal Highness, with Prince Rupert, arrive at *White-hall*, and his Majesty conferred the Honour of Knighthood upon Captain *Christopher Mings*, Captain *Jeremy Smith*, Rear Admiral *Tiddman*, Captain *Spragge*, Captain *Jourdain*, and Captain *Cuttings*.

The Earl of *Sandwich* for this Winter Expedition being made Admiral, set sail again toward the Coast of *Holland*, and offered, though in vain, a second Engagement.

Prince Rupert and the Duke of *Albermarle* being pitch'd on for the Command of the Royal Navy this Summer, they went on Board, and put to Sea with a Fleet well appointed for War; but Prince Rupert having Orders sent him with 20 Frigates, to stand over to the Coast of *France*, to hinder the French from joining with the Dutch, who had declared War against *England*. Our English Protestant Rebels, in Conjunction with their dear Allies the Dutch, sent them an Account thereof, who laying hold of this Opportunity, with Four-score and Five Men of War, on the first of *June* strack'd them (in hopes of Success) though so much diminish'd in Number.

The Duke of *Albermarle* maintain'd the Fight for two Days, with 50 Ships against 80 odd of the Enemy, and then was happily joined with Prince Rupert's Squadron, and the fourth instant obtained a happy Victory against the United Naval Force of the States General. In this Engagement Sir *Fretcheville Hollis* lost his Arm, and the Royal Prince unhappily stranded on the *Gallies*, and burnt by the Dutch. The Commander Sir *George Aylough* was taken Prisoner, and carried to *Holland*, and shew'd in Triumph to their People.

The Dutch gave out they had got the Victory, and celebrated a mock Triumph over *England*; at home they grew to such an height of Insolence, that in their extravagant Thanks, they could not refrain from exposing and burning their Enemies in Effigie, and besides the Prince and the Duke, they spared not the sacred Persons of the King and Queen, which Providence returned with some Injuries to themselves; for the Fire of one of their Bonfires burnt down two Houses and a Barn, and many Children killed and hurt, besides Trump's Ship by Accident had all her Rigg'd damaged and burnt by their Lanthorns, on the said Thanks-

giving-Day; and with a more ridiculous Silliness, they brag of their Victory abroad, to the Scorn and Derision of Foreign Nations, *Vid. Gaz. N. 66. from 28 Jun. to 1 July 1666.*

The Dutch speedily patch up their Fleet, and were hovering about the *Northforeland*; but so soon as the Royal Fleet put to Sea, the Enemy bore away, trusting to their Banks rather than their Courage. And on the 25th of *July*, the English Navy engaged the Dutch on their own Coast, and on the 29th there was obtain'd by his Majesty's Fleet, under the Command of Prince Rupert, and the Duke of *Albermarle*, a manifest and undoubted Victory against the whole Dutch Fleet, who were most shamefully chased into their own Harbours, where the English continued before the *Moss* in *Scheveling* on the 4th of *August*, and before the *Tenel* the sixth, and on the seventh, Sir *Robert Holmes* destroyed in *Uly*, 150 Sail of Dutch Ships, most of them richly laden; as also the Town of *Bandar* upon the Island of *Shelling*, containing at least One Thousand Houses.

After a Tryal of Fortune both ways, the Dutch prevailing neither with equal nor greater Force, apply themselves to the French, and sailing thither, endeavour'd to raise up an Enemy to the King of *Great Britain*.

Upon the News of their being out, the Royal Fleet set sail, and beyond *Calis* block'd up the Dutch on the French Coast; but it being tempestuous Weather, the English thought it safer to bear away to *St. Helens*, where they waited to intercept the French Fleet.

#### *Fire of London.*

While the Fleets were thus watching one another, the Whiggish Faction were not idle; for on the 2d of *September* 1666, a lamentable Fire broke out in *London*; it began in a Baker's Shop in *Pudding-lane*, in the lower part of the City, near *Thomas-street*, amongst old rotten wooden Houses, very apt to catch Fire, and full of combustible Goods, the Darkness of the Night putting things into Terror and Confusion, increased the Horror of the great Calamity.

The Citizens being affrighted, delayed the use of timely Remedies; and which was no small occasion to the Evil, the People neglecting too much their Houses, were so fatally set upon the hasty removing of their Goods, which were yet at length devoured by the nimble Flames.

The



The raging East Wind did far greater Damage in the burning the City, by carrying the Force of the Flames through the greatest part of *London*, that the Conflagration soon grew insuperable, by the blowing of the Wind, which raised in a Moment the Fire from the Bottom to the Tops of the Houses, and scattering Flakes in all Places; it soon grew too strong for the Endeavours of those that laboured to quench it.

Here the Blazes of ruddy Flames were to be seen, and there the crushing of falling Houses to be heard; and which was the saddest Spectacle under the Sun, the doleful Looks of so many Citizens, the wailing of desolate Women, and Cries of Children and decrepid aged People; and in the forsaken Shops of the wealthy Inhabitants, Numbers of Thieves and Pilferers, (greedier of Booty than the Fire) villanously skulked.

No Man that had a sense of human Miseries, could see, and not be affected with the dismal Spectacle of the ruining City of *London*.

Now were to be seen almost an hundred Churches, consecrated to God, and many Hospitals, the Monuments of ancient Piety, besides other publick Buildings, raised at the vast Charges of our Ancestors; the famed *St. College*, and the *Royal-Exchange* of *London*, the *Guild-Hall*, and stately Cathedral of *St. Paul's*, as sad Spectacles of the Calamity, either buried under their own Rubbish, or standing Monuments of the devouring Flames.

Whilst all things else in the *Exchange* were consumed, without sparing the many Statues of our Kings, only that of *Grisham* the Founder stood, to bewail the Ruins of his own Fabrick; so kind was Fate to the Fame and Memory of the liberal Donor.

The King, whose high born Soul was above the Vicissitudes of human Contingencies, could not but with Grief and Sorrow behold the lamentable Calamity of his wretched Subjects, and native City, exhorting, comforting, and advising them in their greatest Difficulties; and therefore he ordered, that the next Houses to the Fire should be blown up, that a void Space being made betwixt the Buildings, the remaining part of the City, that which still stood might be saved; this being the last Remedy that could be used, *Vid. Gaz. N. 85. from 3. to Sept. 10. 1666.*

The Duke of *York* also, and many of the Nobility, praised and encouraged the Forward, assisted the Distressed, and gave a generous Exam-

ple to all, by the vigorous Resistance they made against the devouring Flames, *Vid. Gaz. ditto to N.*

After that the Conflagration had continued four Days, to the inestimable Loss of the Citizens, and burnt down Thirteen Thousand Houses, it was at length stopp'd, more at the Direction of Divine Providence, than by any human Actions or Means.

Various indeed were the Opinions how this dreadful Conflagration began, some looking upon it to be the Scourge of Heaven, on a wicked and rebellious People, especially the *Londoners*; who by their insolent Rage, were the first Cause of the Misfortunes of King *CHARLES* the Martyr; that the City was polluted with sacred Blood, even of many of the Nobility, Gentry, and Commonalty, that bravely suffer'd in so Glorious and Royal a Cause, and that some of these Citizens audaciously call'd for, and others permitted these very Murders; and some of them did in the midst of this Fiery Judgment, humbly acknowledge the avenging Hand of God on them.

Others said it was a piece of Treachery, contrived and carried on by the inveterate Malice of the Papists; and endeavoured to charge (at least a Connivance on the Guard) the Earl of *Cromwell*, the Duke of *York*, and even the King himself, with having a Hand in it.

The Faction did draw an odious Parallel between his Majesty and *Nero*; by these means to throw it off, as far from themselves (I mean the Whigs and the Dutch) as possibly they could, and which I am the rather apt to believe, was the true Intent and Meaning of *Sir Patient Ward's* Monumental Inscription.

But to prove who it was that did this most wicked Villany, I shall in this place insert the many Whiggish pretended Apparitions and Prodigious seen in the Air, which were Printed, and set forth privately, under the Umbrage of miraculous Judgments, foretelling the Fire of *London* some Years before it happened, which take as follows.

*Prodigies predicting the Fire of London.*

*Annis Mirabilis, primus & secundus. Printed 1661, and 1662.*

A Meteor in the Form of a Dart, seen hanging in the Air over *London*, 12 *Octob. 1660. Vid. An. Mir. fol. 5.*

A Ball of Fire seen to come out of the Heavens,

vans, and fall upon a Gentleman's House; another in a Wood, and a third on the Ground, 30 *Octob.* 1660. *ditto L.* fol. 8. Q. Were not these Popish Fire-balls that fired the City of London?

Several Steeple and Cathedrals seen burning in the Air, some subverted, others torn irreparably, &c.

A Steeple fired in the Air, and tumbled down, with a Sword hanging in it.

And another Steeple fired also, and tumbled down, with a Pike hanging at it, seen 5 and 8 of *Decemb.* 1660. *ditto L.* fol. 17.

A Sheet of Fire mingled with Blood, seen directly over *St. Paul's*, 14 *Jan.*

And a Fiery Sword over the West Pag of *London*, 22 *Jan.* 1660. *ditto L.* fol. 18.

A Great Fire seen over the White Tower in the Tower, hanging in the Air.

Strange Flashes of Fire seen in the Air over *Court Garden*, *ditto L.* fol. 13.

*But now observe!*

About 8 a Clock at Night, the 14th of *March* 1660. Some of the Inhabitants of *Plaistow*, in the Parish of *Wapping*, near *London*, saw for some Hours together a very great Flame of Fire over the City of *London*, as near as they could guess; it was so great, that a very knowing Person, an Eye-witness (from whom we received this Information) did declare to us, that he believed he should the next Morning have heard that half the City of *London* had been consumed with Fire; but when he came there, he found his Hears prevented, though his Admiration very much heightened.

Another bright Cloud running to and fro in the Air, and dropping down Fire upon *Whitehall*, and the *Parliament House*, the 14 of *March* 1660. *ditto Lib.* fol. 24.

*Mirabilis Annus secundus, 1662.*

Upon the 17th of *April* 1661, being the *Wednesday* in *Easter Week*; a creditable Person living in the *Bowling-Alley* near *Westminster-Abbey*, coming with his Daughter, about seven Years of Age, from *Kentish-Town* towards *London*, in the Evening, near the *Pinders* of *Wakefield*, met with two other Persons returning from *London*, who desired him to look behind him; which when he had done, he saw in the Air the appearance of the Tower of *London*, and presently after the whole City it self. And while he beheld it with great Astonishment about the space of a quarter of an Hour, there appeared very

dreadful Flashes of Fire between the Houses in the Street, and suddenly the City seemed to be all on Fire; and on the top of one of the Gates, they conceived they saw the Appearance of a dead Man's Head upon a Pole. Over the City were the Shapes of several Lions, and about the West Part of it appeared a Field of Blood. After they had beheld this about half an Hour, the aforesaid Person and his Daughter being much amazed and terrified at these strange and dreadful Representations, went forward toward *London*; and at their going away, the Fire seemed to break forth brighter and brighter. This whole Relation was immediately received from the Person's own Mouth, by one who is a Contributor to this Collection.

For my part, I don't at all wonder that the Whiggish Faction should pretend to a Prophetic Spirit, under the Veil of Prodiges, Judgments, and Apparitions, since it was no difficult Task for them to unmiddle the secret Plots of their own making.

But to proceed, in the Year 1660, it seems *Mr. George Withers* himself, had confused Pre-apprehensions of the like effect, which he set forth in his *Warning-piece* to *London*, published this said Year, occasion'd by a sudden Fire in the Night at *Ladbury*, near the middle of the City, which then consumed the House of an eminent Citizen, with all the Inhabitants therein.

This no doubt was a Riddle, and therefore the Faction was attempting to fire the City before the great Conflagration. This Story you will find in the Preface of a Book, entituled, *Fragmenta Prophetica*, Printed 1669.

The Author of the said Collections of several of *Withers*'s Predictions, throughout his Works, is of Opinion, that the Spirit of Prophecy, as foretelling what shall come to pass in relation to those Mercies, or Judgments, which shall be the Reward of well-doing, and the Punishment of Evil-doers in this Life, is not taken away or ceased, as it hath been manifested in and by many, who have seen in our Days Revelations of such things before they came to pass, and have been living Witnesses of their predicting them beforehand; and in particular, of that Judgment whereby the Glory of *London* was this Year consumed, (though that will not come into every Man's Creed) for before the said Fire, this Author was informed by a creditable Person (who was afterwards a great Sufferer thereby) of a Vision representing such a Conflagration in *London*, as there befel soon after (this



(this Person suffered no doubt by the Party, for being over zealous in printing the said Prediction too soon, for it was never unridled before) Ditto the said Preface in ditto L.

Moreover 'tis creditably avowed, that a Book was brought to be published a little before the said Fire, for declaring what we have seen come to pass. Its Author was refus'd the printing of it, because it was not licensed; and that Poster being afterwards very busie to help quench the Fire; and then seeing the same Person who had offered him that Account to print before it happened, told him he suspected his Hand to be in the kindling of it; ditto Preface of ditto L.

And no doubt of it, for they that could predict and foretell such things, certainly intended to have a hand in the kindling it.

We think it is not improper to let the World see what Mr. Lilly (the Dissenter's Oracle) did predict the Year before this Fire happened, which was wrote and printed, *Ann. 1665.*

Says he, it may be conjectured, that Men, pretending to Sanctity of Life, or several Citizens and Burgesses, or Persons inhabiting in great Towns, vulgarly called *Sectaries*, viz. that State, or many of those, and Persons of other Qualities and Callings, shall be busie in Consultation, to disturb the publick Peace of those Parts, or Countries, where they inhabit. Nay, their private Animosities shall be so foolishly great against their own Prince and Country, that they will, as much as in them lies, rather offend themselves and the Nation's Enemies. In plain terms, these are made manifest publicly, viz. some of every Quality aforesaid, to be Traitors unto their own natural Prince, and for Bribe, to betray those Trusts he may unhappily repose in their Custodies, or to do what Mischief they can by private Intelligence with the Enemy, purposely that they may domineer in their own conceited Judgments. It follows, *Exercitium mendacii in latitudine hominum, cum offensum mali vel injuriam*; Men, viz. some Men pretending unto Conscience or Religion, shall give themselves great latitude in lying, or exercise lying wholly in all Actions, with Assent or Consent, well liking those Evils they perpetrate thereby. So that we see many Persons of Quality, in several Parts of the World, shall assume unto themselves a Liberty of Lying, or allow themselves a Latitude of Jugling in their Speeches, Treaties, Articles, or the like, with intention to commit Evil thereby, or to revenge pretended Injuries; by urging falsely

the like Injuries have been done unto him or them, shall Prince, their Country, &c. If it be said, Quia, is *verum*, where, or in what Part, or what Kingdom, Countries, &c. shall these things be said; unto which we say, every Person who hath any particular Concernment, either in the Angle of the Figure of the Eclipse 1664, either in Opposition, or in Quadrant unto the Place eclipsed, or in this or those of 1665, or in the Places or Degrees eclipsed, or in one of those intended in the former Discourse. And also those Grandees, whether of Court or Country, Cities or Towns, or otherwise in Command, &c. His Majesty's Honor, or have the principal Management of the present Affairs of those Kingdoms, Countries, Places by us nominated, shall also concern'd, and ought to be wary in their Actions, lest he or they be found guilty, and in Conclusion cry, *Misere, &c.*

Now here I will bring you from their Books of Judgments, that these very Protestants did (some Years before it happened) predict the Destruction of this City of London by Fire.

'Tis also observable, that the Collector of Mr. Wither's Predictions and Judgments through his Works, seems to be very angry at such Persons, who were then of Opinion that Prophecy was ended; and vindicates it to that degree in several Particulars that it could not be; he names the Author (first) that carry'd his Book of Predictions, some time before the Fire happened. Also Mr. Wither's Judgment given in his Warning-piece to the City of London, Printed 1662; and lastly, Dr. Gell's Judgment, in his Sermon then preached before my Lord Mayor.

Nay, and Mr. Lilly, in his Almanack the Year before, printed in 1665, says, that the *Sectaries*, (meaning our Medley of Protestant) would be very busie in disturbing the publick Peace, and shews their very Treachery (which was) by joining with the Kingdom's Enemies, (who were then the Dutch) and says, they did it on purpose that they might domineer in their own conceited Judgments, and concludes with a Caveat of their Actions, (and then gives his Reason) lest they be found guilty of their Crimes, and in Conclusion cry, *Misere, &c.* And this is full enough to purpose, and it can never be doubted, or made a Question, after all these Judgments, Opinions and Predictions, under their own Hands, but that our Medley of Protestants and the Dutch did fire the City.

But here is another undeniable Proof; did not *Rothbone, &c.* in Apr. 1666. (21 of them

Dissenters) confess the Design they had to burn the City; and that the third of September, the day fixed by Lilly's Almanack was a lucky Day, and pitch'd on for that Attempt, (and had the States then but consulted the said Lilly, as they did the State Wm. & Partridge in the first Revolution of Glorious Memory) the former Scheme might have been as successful in their Attempts as the latter. But these Rebels, were they not fairly arraigned, tryed, found guilty, and executed, and did they not die, some of them, declaring that the Design would yet take effect; and it did take effect, for the Fire (as last) began within three Hours of the time they had pitch'd upon. *Vid. Sir R. L. S. O. Vol. 1. N. 198.*

Tell me now if it be not a gross, a malicious, and a manifest Partiality, after these pregnant and undeniable Proofs of a Popish Conspiracy for burning the City in Flame, and to charge the Villany all the while (which if true, though I deny it) it was done only by the hands of our poor Popish, a Mission, who I shall prove to be by and by a Protestant.

But this Confession at last past (among the Spirits) for a Judgment, till it became the Interest of one Plot to make it another; and Mr. Rous (that did then for us for two God Almighty's secret Providence and Dispensations on my Man, perhaps, that looks quite the other way) appears a little divided within himself as being the Fire of London.

In his *Obelisk Perpetuus*, p. 254. he seems to cast the Judgment upon the score of Faithful Protestants, that had been burnt about four Years, (meaning, I suppose, the St. Bartholomew Persecution). But then, p. 260. he puts it to the Account of the (Corruption common Sin of England, and that London, and so many Corporations were laid in Ashes.) This looks as if he had an eye to the Corporation Act, but there's no seeing through it without a pair of *Kidnapper Spectacles*, to fit a Man's Sight to the understanding of those Judgments.

We'll suppose now that eight Jesuits had been put to Death for this horrid Villany, under the same Circumstance of Arraignment, Evidence and Confession, with the eight Schismaticks, and Otus's Tale at second hand, with all these Surmises and Likelyhoods, had cast it upon the true Protestants, who shou'd have burnt this City then I prithoe? To be sure not the Protestants, but the Papists. I say, this is home enough to purpose, for whosoever will pretend to clear the Fanatics, that were so notoriously guilty on one side, will (to shreen themselves

and the Dutch) with the same Conscience and Humanity charge the Papists, let them be never so innocent of the Fact on the other.

O, but the Author of the *Flying Post* says, the Credit of this Story is quite spoiled by the telling of it, and what reason does he give for it? Why, says he, what Man of common Sense can suppose the Great of Holland to be concern'd in such a Plot, with eight or nine obscure Persons, the chief of whom was only a disbanded Colonel.

Again (says he) the States were always known to have more Zeal for their Religion, and more Regard for their Trade, than to concur in the burning of London, which would have been fatal to both.

Now give me leave to ask this very modest Gentleman (by way of Reply to what he has said on the behalf of the zealous and religious States of Holland) one Question.

Pray, who was it that burnt the Royal English Fleet in Chatham River, when they lay there disarmed of Men, Guns and Rigging, and this done, while his Majesty's Ambassador was at Bruck, treating with the States about Peace?

Was it not the Dutch? And were not several of these true blow Protestants the Old Army Officers, on board the Dutch Fleet, when they piloted them up the River, *Vid. Gen. N. 169.* from 12 Jan. to the 17th, 1666.

Another Question you'll pardon me if I ask you, for what Reason did the Dutch Fleet do all this Mischief? perhaps you cannot, or will not tell me; but I'll save you the Trouble, by bringing a Person of your own Stamp and Kidney that shall inform you: He says, the Dutch burnt our Fleet at Chatham, out of Revenge to Sir Robert Holmes, who heretofore had signaliz'd himself, by burning 150 Sail of Dutch Merchant Ships (after the Royal Fleet had gloriously beaten the Dutch) at Shelling. *Vid. Same Paper.* of the late K. James, fol. 16.

If so, then pray give me leave to put you in mind of another Story or two.

It happened that after the last Engagement with the Dutch Fleet, the English having beaten them, and forced them to fly for it, the whole English Fleet followed them to the Coast; the Seamen were unwilling to be idle on the Dutch Coast, Prince Rupert and the Duke of Albemarle ordered out Sir Robert Holmes, a Man of great Understanding to the Use; where sailing thither, and having left a Guard of Ships at the Entry into the Harbour: He took with him five Fire-ships, and one Frigate, besides Pinnaces and



and Routs Men'd with Soldiers and Seamen, and boldly entering therein, he burnt all the Ships in the Harbour, to the number of 150 Sail, many of them very rich East India Ships well laden. The Town of *Bandaris* in the Island of *Shelling*, consisting of above 1000 Houses, was afterwards taken and burnt, and the Plunder given to the Soldiers and Sailors. And *Bahar* having shar'd the Glory and Danger with his Men, came off, leaving behind him a blazing Bonfire of Ships and Houses, to the great Amusement and Damage of the Dutch, the King of England's Enemies, *Vid. Gaz. N. 79. from 13 Aug. to 16. 1666.*

Now, if the Dutch could be provok'd, as *Dr. Oates* says, to burn our English Shipping, when they lay unmann'd and at Anchor in *Chatham River*, for the burning of their Merchant Ships at the *Uly*; then I appeal to all the World, whether that the burning of above 1000 Houses in the Town of *Bandaris*, on the Island of *Shelling*, must not highly provoke them more, and out of Revenge, did atrociously fire *London*, as they did our Navy in the River *abovesaid*.

But to make this matter a little more plain, and to set it beyond Dispute, the Report of *Sir Robert Drue's* great Undertaking, had no sooner spread its Fame, and reached the Ears of several Nations, but some of our own Dutch Prisoners, mad in Heart at this great Loss to their Nation, were plotting and contriving how to be revenged on England for it.

Several Dutch being taken in the former Engagements, and being then made Prisoners of War at *Drifet*, it seems were so well treated by the Government, that they had the Liberty of walking this City; and upon News of *Sir Robert Drue's* great Action, planned the firing of a great Pile of *Sticks* which stood upon the *Key*, where most of the Ships then lay, with an intention to have burnt them, and with them a great part of the Town; but their being timely discovered by a Maid of the House where they were discoursing in, (who by good fortune understood their Language) the Mayor of the City set so good a Guard upon them, that they were taken in the very Fact, and committed to Prison, *Vid. Gaz. N. 81. from 23 Aug. to 27. 1666.*

From hence it is very plain, that if the Dutch began so soon to revenge this Injury, there's no question but they did help set Fire to the City of *London*, as well as to the Fleet at *Chatham*, the former being done more privately than the latter.

But for Argument sake we'll suppose for once, that the Papists were so cruel and barbarous as to burn the City of *London*; if so, then it will be high time a little to examine into the extraordinary Compassion and Assistance given from one Protestant to another, in this most urgent and necessary Occasion.

And here I doubt I shall offend my Reader, at the severe Treatment they met with from them, though a very true Relation.

It seems the whole Country, 10 Miles round from *London*, came polling in with their Carts, Waggons and Teams, and all very ready to help (these deplorable Citizens in their great Distress) away with their Goods, lest they, as well as their Houses might be destroyed by the Fire. And so compassionate were they to them, that in this pinching extreme Occasion, the Carters stood for tea and twenty Pence a Cart, to take up their Goods, and after they had bargain'd (with grief I tell it) they would not trust, but required their Money beforehand, and then went fairly away with the Goods and Money, and were never heard of more. And thus much may suffice to shew the World, that the Protestants Mercy to the Citizens in their greatest Extremity, did by far exceed the barbarous Cruelty of the Papists.

Nay, that very Popish King, and Duke of *York*, (which the Faction most disloyally accuse for having been the Cause of the said Conflagration, which I deny) yet in the midst of their Cruelty, had Mercy mix'd with Compassion, when their Bowels yern'd on the Citizens in their sad Distress, by sending them out of the Tower of *London*, the Warlike Prisoners of *Vindicta*, which was laid up there for the Gunmen and Soldiers, to keep them at that time from starving in such their great Extremity. *Vid. Gaz. N. 81.*

But oh! I cannot forget the unfeigned Charity of those Protestant Friends to the Citizens of *London*, in their greatest Extremity.

Now our Author of the *Flying Post* is upon his Conclusion, and therefore I am oblig'd to follow him close, before I take leave of him.

To conclude (says he) this Matter once for all, let the World judge of the Willness and Orthodoxy of *Abel's* Masters, in setting up this foolish Story of the *Gazette* against the Authority of the House of Commons, who appointed a Committee of 72 Members, to enquire into the Fire of *London* (amongst whom there were not a few eminent Cavaliers) and as appears by the Report of *Sir Robert Drue*, their Chairman,

received above 40 Informations upon Oath, proving that *London* was burnt by the Papists, which was also confessed by *Hubert*, a French Papist, at his Execution, on the very spot where the Monument erected now stands. As to this Report of the Committee against the Authority of the Gazette, wherein we are informed, that there were above 40 Informations upon Oath, proving that *London* was burnt by the Papists, is most notoriously false in all its Parts. But it is no new thing amongst our Whiggs, to swallow Oaths of Secrecy to commit Rebellions, and deny the F.&, especially when it is to carry on the good Old Cause, where it required all their Cunning and Skill to fix this Plot on the Papists; and they that had been so dexterous at Invention of Predilections and Judgments to usher in their Rebellions, no wonder if they should be wanting at Informations, and especially when it was to screen themselves and the Dutch, who had committed all these Villanies. Yet it may be observed, that never a one of those Forty Informations is worth a Doit, because (if we may believe the *Flying Post*) there were none of them brought in against *Hubert* as Evidence; for out of his own Mouth he tells us, he was hanged upon his own Confession. Troop, troop then away with your Informations, they are not worth a F——.

But now give me leave a little to enquire into the Proceedings of the House of Commons upon this Report of their Committee. In the first place, Sir *Robert Drake*, then Chairman, being ask'd his Opinion touching this *Hubert*, by a Gentleman of his Acquaintance, frankly confessed that he was a Madman, and said that he was no more guilty of burning of the City of *London* than he was.

My Author says (touching the Debate of the House, what Report they should make) he had this following Account from a Person of Honour, and a Member of that Committee of Parliament, which examin'd the said *Hubert*, viz. That upon the Debate, what Report to make upon this Examination, it being generally concluded, that the Man was not right in his Wits, and that he talk'd he knew not what, they resolv'd briefly to report the Matter of Fact, as it appeared to them, without interposing any Opinion of their own; and the House upon the Report, and a full Discussion of the whole Affair, did not think fit to proceed to any Judgment or Declaration of their Sense of the Business, but left *Hubert* wholly to the Common Law. *Vide* Sir R. L. S. *Obser.* Vol. 1. N. 374.

Upon *Hubert's* Tryal at the Old Bailey before the Judges and the Lord Mayor; my Lord *Holles* gave Evidence that he was Lunatick, and so did Doctor *Durell* (the late) Dean of *Windsor*; the French Church of *Stockholm* gave the same Testimony, the Judges that heard his Tryal were of the same Opinion; and Sir *William Wild*, Recorder of *London*, in his Direction to the Jury, delivered himself frankly, that the Man said he did not know what.

Yet all the aforesaid Testimonies in his behalf, signified not one Button to the Saints of the Lord; for they were so very zealous in the Cause (and upon the Colour of his being a Papist) resolv'd to sling the Plot on the Romanists; and in order to screen themselves and their beloved Allies the Dutch, prevail'd with the Jury to do it, being of the same Kidney (who contrary to their Oaths) perjured themselves to serve the Protestant Cause, and so murdered an innocent Lunatick Person that was distracted. And thus much may serve by way of Observation on Factionous or Party Juries.

But it won't be much amiss in this Place, if I recite to you some Passages out of this very Report, which the F.&ion does so often appeal to, not only to prove this *Hubert* guilty of the Fact, but also to murder his very Reputation, by fixing on him (as a Mark of Infamy) the Name of Papist, on purpose to sling their Plot on the Roman Catholics.

First, it said that *Robert Hubert* of *Rouen* in *Normandy*, acknowledged that he was one of those that fired the House of Mr. *Parmer's* Baker in *Pudding-lane*, *Vide* said Report, fol. 2.

*Answer.* He indeed might say so, because he was Lunatick, and therefore no heed to be taken in what he said; for the said *Hubert* (says my Author) confess'd a Murder, and made such a Noise of it every where, that they could not avoid bringing him to Justice for it; he was arraigned, confessed the Fact, and had received Sentence, and a Day appointed for his Execution, but betwixt that and the Sentence, the true Murderer was found out, try'd, condemn'd and executed, and this very *Hubert* set free, *Vid.* *Ob.* Vol. 1. N. 370.

Now what Care ought Juries to take on all such Persons, lest they have innocent Blood to answer for at another Tribunal, for the Blood of such cries for Vengeance from the Lord; neither would any but a Party Jury do such a barbarous Action, unless they have a mind to be all taken for Lunaticks too.



Secondly, That he came with one *Pedilo*, a Frenchman, from *Sweedland*, into *England*, in a Swedish Ship called the *Skippen*, ditto Rep. ditto fol.

Ans. That he did not come at all with *Pedilo*, for there was not one Passenger on board the Ship, that *Hubert* came in, neither was the Vessel called the *Skippen*, but the *Milkmaid*.

Thirdly, That he put a Fire-ball at the end of a long Pole, and lighting it with a piece of Match, to put it in at a Window, and that he staid till he saw the House on a Flame, and confesses there was three Complices, whereof *Pedilo* was the chief. Ditto Rep. ditto fol.

Ans. That he could not be the Person that fired *Farmer's House*, he being very lame, for he had a dead Palfie on one side, one Arm useless, and much ado to trail one Leg after him. Was not this a fit Man to manage a long Pole, clap a Fire-ball to the end of it, and this Fire-ball to be put into a Window, where I find there was no Window at all? But the Author has help'd out that with an Asterism at [Window] and this Marginal Note upon it [the Alehouse in *Buttolph Lane*, joining to Mr. *Farmer's House*, was the place to which *Pedilo* brought *Hubert*, and put in the Fire-ball through a Hole broken in the Wall, which he mistaking for a Window, made the Relation to be suspected.] This is an Ornament which we call in English [helping a lame Dog over the stile.] Now how this lame Man should manage the long Pole with one hand, is a question; and it may be another, how *Hubert*, that was never here before, and came hither in the Night, when it was so dark, that he could not know a Window from a Hole in the Wall, (the Lane not being above ten Foot over at most, and buried in the Rubbish with the Ruins) when the Inhabitants of thirty or forty Years standing, were at a loss to find their own Houses in the fairest Streets of the Town, Vid. Sir R. L. S. Ob. Vol. 1. N. 370.

Fourthly, That one Mr. *Graves*, a Frenchman, in *St. Mary-Ae*, kn w this *Hubert* ever since he was four Years old, and ever observed him to be a mischievous Person, and fit for any villanous Enterprize.

Yet (what is to be admired at) this very

Person told the said *Hubert*, he did not believe that he had done this said Fact. (Why did he not before say, that he was fit for any villanous Enterprize, but *Lyant* had need of good Memories.)

*Hubert* replies, he was guilty of it, and was brought to it by the Instigation of *Pedilo*, but did it not out of any Malice he had to the English Nation, Vid. Rep. fol. 2.

In answer to this, I shall prove by and by, that *Hubert* couldn't tell this Fact to the said Frenchman for a Truth.

That *Lowman*, the Keeper of the *White Lyon* Prison, was commanded to set him upon a Horse, (being lame) and to go with him, to see if he could find out the place where he threw the Fire-ball; *Hubert* brings him to *Padding-Lane*, where the very House which was fired stood, ditto R. ditto fol.

In answer to this. But I can prove (says my Author) by sufficient Testimony, that when he was carried to find the House, there were Hundreds of People went directly that way before him, and they all stopt in a Ring, round about the Place where the House stood; so that his finding of the House was no more, than his gaping the same way that the rest did. Besides, that unless *Lowman* carry'd him the very same way to the House that *Pedilo* did, 'twas impossible for him to find it again. Vid. Sir R. L. S. Ob. Vol. 1. N. 370.

And lastly, that he confess'd himself to be a Protestant before the Commissioners, yet was a Papist, and dyed so, ditto Report, ditto fol.

To conclude this Head, I shall say as this Report does, that he not only confess'd himself to be a Protestant before the Commissioners, but must also let the World know that he was born, and train'd up a Protestant, a Member of the French Protestant Church of *Stockholm*, the Master of the Ship a Protestant too, that was to carry him to his Father, and there was no Evidence of his dying of the Roman Communion, or a Papist. Sir R. L. S. Ob. Vol. 1. N. 370.

Now give me leave, and I shall shew you that this Report is mistaken in almost every Article, and that *Hubert* did not fire the City of London, and that several eminent Citizens knows this to be Truth and Fact.

and is ready to make Oath as aforesaid.

Signed by the said Laurence Peterson,  
this 17th Day of December, 1681.

Here follows the Information of *Laurence Peterson*, that was Master of the Ship *Milkmaid* of Stockholm in the Kingdom of Sweedland, which Ship brought over this *Hubert* then to London.

*Laurence Peterson*,  
Now Master of *Dortningholme*.

*Vid. Obs. Sir R. L. S. N. 370.*

I could name several (says my Author), in the City of London, (and though *Hubert*, till now, was never charged to be a Papist, nor reputed any other than a Protestant) that knows more of this matter than they would willingly own, (observe that) but I shall rather refer my self at present to the three *Hon-ble's*, Brethren, and Men of Note upon the Exchange, or to any one of them, what they know of (the Master of the Ship) *Mr. Peterson's* Information, *Ditto Obs. N. 371.*

**S**Aith, and he is ready to make Oath, that his Ship being Freight'd with several Commodities to carry to the City of *Roan* in France, he was desired by one *Mr. Haggerfern*, a Merchant his Neighbour, to carry in his Ship to *Roan*, *Robert Hubert*, the Son of *Mr. Hubert* of *Roan*, he being (not well in mind) and being very poor, so that he was chargeable to them there. And accordingly he did receive him on Board the said Ship, and did set Sail for his intended Voyage; but meeting at Sea with Prince *Rupert*, he stop't him, and order'd him to go with his Ship to London, which he accordingly did, and arrived two Days before the City of London was on Fire, and came to an Anchor at *St. Catherine's*, near *Mr. Corfell's* Brewhouse. And he doth affirm, and is ready to make Oath, that the said *Robert Hubert* was never ashore, nor out of his Ship, from his coming into it, until the (Tuesday after the Fire began) and during the Fire, the said *Hubert* did seem to rejoice and say, *Fery well, Fery well*, which with the Word *Yes, Yes*, was all the English he could speak; and thereupon the said Master seemed angry, and troubled to see him rejoice, shut him into the Hold, and he crept out of a private Scuttle, and got ashore upon the said *Mr. Corfell's* Key, where this Informant saw him seized by the Multitude, and presently carried away. And the Waiter of his Ship telling of this Informant, that he did hear that the said *Hubert* was put into Prison some Days after, and wou'd have had this Informant to have look'd after him; he did say that he wou'd not trouble himself about him, and that he never heard of more, until he went to his Father at *Roan*, to get him to pay three Pound ten Shillings that was due to him for his Passage and Dyet; and then his Father told him, that his Son was hanged for firing the City of London; which much amazed this Informant, he well knowing to the contrary,

But to conclude this Matter, prithee do but lay these things together; here's a lame, creeping, miserable Wretch, pitch'd upon for this Popish Design and Plot; four and twenty Complices made out of one poor Man, that came over to England single; a Papist out of a Protestant Church at *Stockholme* in the Kingdom of *Sweedland*; a Confederacy to burn a Town, brought over in a Ship that never meant to come hither; a known Madman, singled out for a Conspiracy, *Hubert* setting London on Fire with a long Pole, that must needs reach then from *St. Catherine's* to *Pudding-lane*, where the Monument now stands; a Plot of twenty four to fire the Town in one place. And upon the whole matter, *He's as mad as Hubert that does believe it, and he's a Jesuit that does not.*

And now let any Man say, if ever there was such a Story patch'd up, of such silly and inconsistent Circumstances, so ridiculously put together, and so liable a hundred ways to be detected. Well! 'tis a thousand Pity, that a sort of People, that have such admirable Talents, for the out-facing of a downright Lye, should be such Dotards at Romancing, and giving a wild Story so much as the least Colour of Congruity or Coherence.

But to make this a little clearer, and to shew the Sense of the House of Commons, touching the Fire of London, and to silence all manner of malicious Reports that might be made thereon; they ordered, that the Thanks of this House should be given to his Majesty,



Majesty, for the great Care and Endeavour that he hath taken to prevent the burning of the City of London, *Vid. Gaz. N. 92. from 1 Octob. to 4. 1666.*

Now then, although the Duke of York (as the *Flying-Post* says, it is well known) had the Management of this Paper (called the *Gazette*) and could order every thing to their own Advantage against the Protestants) yet herein it did not become his Policy, or that of the Government, to insert this Thanks of the House of Commons, which makes for their Advantage, and so much against the Interest of these protesting Subjects; fearing that the said Duke and Court might have been called to an Account for this matter, for presuming to put so great a Deceit and Falshood on the Nation in general.

But so harden'd was this very Duke in such Affairs, that he had the Presumption to do something more than all this, nay, and was so bold as to insert it in the *Gazette*, and publish it in the very Face of the World; (and what is most to be admir'd) while this very Parliament was sitting, and that is on the 16th of September, 1666.

This very Duke had the Confidence to present to his Brother King Charles the Second, one *Edmond Godfrey, Esq.* It seems he was a Justice for the County of *Middlesex*, and City and Liberty of *Westminster*; who after the publick Thanks of the King, and Acknowledgment of his eminent Service done in helping to suppress the late Fire of the City of London, received the Honour of Knighthood from his Majesty's Hands, *Vide Gaz. N. 88. from 17 Sept. to 20. 1666.*

Now the whole Nation having been appeal'd to by the *Flying-Post*, it must needs be concluded, that this Author is wholly given up to lying, on purpose to deceive them, and to serve the bad Cause of our Medley of Protestants, in Conjunction with their dear Allies the Dutch, or wou'd never have presumed to put such notorious Falshoods on the whole Nation, as he has done in relation to the *Gazette*, and what is it for? only to skreen themselves, whilst they fling this dreadful Conflagration on the Body of the Roman Catholics.

I have but one thing more to take in, before I conclude this Head, and that is out of our *Flying-Post*. He tells us, those who have read the History of that Time, are not ignorant that a great many Enthusiasticks of seve-

ral Denominations were in *Oliver's Army*, (if so, then they were *Oliver's Protestant Soldiers*, who murder'd the King, and destroyed the Church) and that *Venner* and his Fifth-Monarchy Men, who made an Insurrection in London, were acted under hand by Popish Priests, who pretended to be of their Principles, and put them upon that desperate Attempt, on purpose to bring an Odium upon the whole Body of Protestant Dissenters, &c.

I remember this to be the Story of *Titus Oates*, who is pleas'd to say, that the rising of the Fifth Monarchy-Men was a Plot of the Jesuits, viz. *Strange* and *Grey*, and one *Dr. Goff*, and another Jesuit, that went by the Name of *St. George*, and *Abby*, that was afterwards Rector at *St. Omers*, who counterfeited themselves Fifth Monarchy-Men. And this curious Plot of their fine spinning, took so well, that it easily drew in those silly Fifth Monarchy-Men. Nay, it so far prevail'd, that it drew in *Dr. Oates's* Uncle, known by the Name of *Thomas Buttivant*, one of the same Religion also; and he had certainly been in the rising, if 300 Horse had come in, which the Plotters promis'd should have join'd fifteen hundred Foot, for he was to have been Commander in chief, (here's one of their Plots again made out by *Oates* himself.) *Vid. Oates Pictur. of the late K. James, fol. 74.*

Now *Oates* is pleas'd to say, that though the Fifth Monarchy Men were in this Rebellion, and acted the Traytor's Part, by executing the rising, yet it was not theirs, but a Plot of the Papists, because they were all unfortunately drawn into it by the cunning Stratagems of the said Jesuits.

For Argument sake we'll now suppose this Fact to be a Plot (as he says) of the Jesuits, because they drew in the poor Fifth Monarchy-Men; then by the same Argument, whoever draws another Person into a Plot, and he that is drawn acts the Rebellion; yet it is not the Actor's, but the Contrivers and Drawers in that are the Plotters. This I take to be his Sense, and the meaning of the Account thereof in the *Flying Post*, nay, and even the Opinion of the whole Body of the Whigs; For they all say the same thing, when they tell us that London was fired by the Papists. Now pray what comes all this to? Why it clears the Protestants, and lays the whole Villany upon the Papists; there's the Mistake, as I shall prove by and by.

If this Argument be good in one Case, then certainly it holds so in all, and if so, may not Dr. Oates, Bellow, and others, concerned in the late Popish Plot, be said to be not only the Contrivers, but Drawers in of the poor Roman Catholicks, in the late horrid Popish Conspiracy, carried on against the Life of his Majesty's most sacred Person and Government. For we never could find out that any Jesuit but themselves ever owned there was such a Plot; 'tis true, these Inventors and Drawers in did own it, and good reason they had so to do, for one got by it Ten Pounds a Week, and the rest considerable Quantities of Money; and having a Faction in the House, and a fit Jury on their side, were ready to sacrifice the King, Queen, Duke, and all the Nobility and Gentry that dar'd to oppose it; so great a pitch of Villany was the inveterate Malice of the Party rais'd to; therefore in short according to Oates's Maxim, and the whole Sense of the Party, the poor Catholicks were innocent; and merely by the cunning Stratagems and Wilds of Oates, and by the Protestant Crew, drawn into the said Plot, and therefore suffered wrongfully, and the Jury has murder'd the innocent, and they have wilfully perjured themselves; for Oates, Bellow, and others were the Plotters; and by this Rule, instead of a Popish Plot, out of his own Mouth he himself has proved it to be a Plot of the Protestants, and not of the Catholics.

Again, when the poor Jacobites and Papists together (for their Loyalty to King James) suffer'd in an extraordinary manner, when they were drawn into the late Assassination of King William of Glorious Memory, by Jackanapes Arnold, Sir Ralph D — nt, the Reverend Mr. Presbyterian Ferguson, Titus Oates, Dr. Kingston, and several others: Nay, some don't stick to say, that the Drawers in had their Plan of the said Plot. from one Minbere B — ing, in order to destroy the good King William, and restore the late King James. And to make this yet more plainer, Captain Porter was drawn in to be a Witness, to save his Life; nay, and Captain Cranburn plainly told my Lord Chief Justice Holt, (as you may find in his Trial) that he knew of the said Plot but the Night before he was seized by one of the Messengers; yet though they were all drawn in by the Persons aforesaid, (and if Oates's Maxim is good) then 'twas a Plot of the Williamites against the Life of King Wil-

liam, and not a Plot of the Jacobites; and they were also then barbarously butcher'd, being all innocent; but that did not at all avail them, for they were all hanged, drawn and quarter'd for it. And Partridge (the Protestant State Prophet) for many Years after, calls this Fact, the Cut Throat Jacobite Plot, tho' it was invented, contrived, and carried on by the Whiggish Williamite Protestants, and not by the Jacobites.

Once more, if Titus Oates's Maxim holds good, then John Desborough, Thomas Kelsey, John Grove, William Burton, William Scott, Sir Robert Honeywood, Jun. Thomas Cole of Southampton, . . . . Spurway, Edward Rudden, Dr. Edw. Richardson, John Phillips, and John Phillip of Merinotbsire, being fled to Holland for their Rebellion, were by Proclamation recall'd home, on pain of Treason, by 22 July 1666. They did not think fit to appear, yet these were all so unfortunately drawn in by the Dutch, and actually came on board their Fleet, and plott'd them into Chatham River, 1667. and were helping and assisting to burn his Majesty's Fleet, as it lay there disarm'd of Men, Guns and Tackle. Now then by the same Maxim this was a Plot of the Dutch, and not of the English Protestants, because they drew them in to burn the Fleet of their own Nation.

But to set this matter in its true Light, by laying the Saddle on the right Horse. You must know, in the Year 1681, these Fanatics, or Medley of Protestants, had got into such Reputation and Vogue amongst the Generality of the People of this Nation, that they carry'd all things before them in both Houses of Parliament; they had the harden'd Front then (thinking that the Day would be their own) to lay this barbarous Fact of burning the City on the Papists; nay, to that rebellious height of Impudence were they grown, that they did not spare the King and Duke of York, the Lord Craven, Sir Richard Brown, but the very Guards as well as the rest were stigmatiz'd with the Names of Papists, and that they all consented, conniv'd at, and did actually help to Fire the City of London. And Sir Patient Ward, then Lord Mayor of London, to make this Plague sore spread, and to be universally believed, causes a new Inscription to be set on the Monument, contrary (and directly in opposition) to the former, declaring the Fact to be committed by the Papists, and that one Hubert, a French-

man



men, their Agent, confessed that he had been, and was executed for it then, where the same might now stand.

Now, if the Confession of a Madman shall be so much rely'd on by the Faction, as to lay this barbarous Villany committed, on the Papists, when no body was taken in the Fact, or own'd it, but himself. If this be reasonable to charge the whole Body of the Roman Catholics with it, then give me leave to set this whole Matter to rights, by reciting a Dialogue, which happened upon this very Subject, between a Whig and a Tory, in the Year 1685.

Whig. There is a strange piece of News goes abroad, but the Town is so generally given to Lying, that a Man does not know what to trust to.

Tory. Pray let's have it, however, if it is.

Whig. I am told for certain, that there was a great Discovery made to the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, about the burning of London.

Tory. And on what Person discover'd that?

Whig. Well, but how will this be made out?

Tory. Pray let's have it, however, if it is.

Whig. What's his Religion?

Tory. Some Jesuited Papist you may fancy.

Whig. Does he call himself to be a Papist?

Tory. That may be, because the Design will

of the Plot to burn the City.

Tory. What can any Man imagine, but that he was privy to the Conspiracy; and secondly, that he wish'd well to it.

Whig. Is there not something in a Gazette about that Plot?

Tory. Yes, yes, the Gazette that I have before me, of the 20th of April 1686, gives you the whole History of it.

Whig. 'Tis true, there is a Plot indeed of the Levellers to burn the City, but what's this to the Papists?

Tory. Dr. Owen's Narrative, a Man that declares that to ye, (Stranger, Gray, Huntington and Bates, Jesuits (says he) with some others, together with one Remond, a Dominican Fryar, joined with one Green, who was afterwards seized with the other Eight, and died in Newgate, pretending to hold one of the Fifth Monarchy Preachers.) Now 'tis at your own Choice, whether the Jesuits were drawn into the Millenary's Plot, or the Millenary's into the Jesuits. But here was the Conspiracy, you see for the King of England. And he that has consider'd the Part of this Plot, is left to his Choice, whether he dealt with the Jesuits, or with the Levellers, as a Jesuit, for one of the two is inevitable, *Vol. i. N. 14.*

Whig. Well, but the Plot was conceived, begun, and carry'd on by the Papists and Jesuits.

Tory. Well, and don't you know that the Whigs jump sometimes, and that the Papists and the Jesuits then pick'd out the same Whig; say, and that they had the same Whig in prospect too, the Murder of the King, and the Subversion of the Monarchy.

Whig. But what do you think of Haver's Confession, that it was done by the Papists?

Tory. That you see has been fairly set forth in this piece before you; say, for 'tis has been proved, that he was never on South Hill two Days after the Fire began, therefore the whole Body of the Papists is entirely innocent of this barbarous Action. But here your Party sticks so much upon Haver's Confession, pray let me ask you what you do think of the Confession of Tonge, Phillips, and

...that were hanged, on 22 Decem. 1662. for attempting to do this very Fact: they were all Non-conformist, yet at their Deaths they own'd the thing. What think you of the Confession of Rathbon, Sanders, Tucker, Flint, Evans, Miles, Westcote and Cole, that this very firing of the City of London was designed by the Fanatics. Nay, but what think you of some of their Confessions to the Sheriffs of London at the place of Execution; that although they were executed for attempting the same, yet their Deaths would not prevent the firing of London.

And what think you also of this very Fact, when within three Hours of the time the Criminals had said the City would be fired, it was then fired accordingly. But what think you of the Dutch's burning of the King and Queen, with his Loyds General in Holland; and also of the Dutch Prisoners here in England, that were taken in the very Fact, when they attempted to burn Bristol, about a Month before London was fired. But what say you to the Dutch, and several of these Rebels that were on board the Dutch Fleet, and piloted them into Chatham River, and there in conjunction burnt our Fleet, while it lay disarmed of Men, Guns and Tackle; and are not the Conspiracies likewise confirmed by Dr. Hume, in his Picture of the late King James, and also that of Rathbone, &c. in his Narrative, p. 22, 23. To say nothing of the publick Declaration of an eminent True Protestant of the City of London, who (as it passes for current) did openly affirm, that he knew of the firing of London before-hand. *Vid. Obs. ditum N. 41.*

**Whig.** But pray who is this eminent Citizen so often mentioned by you? has he no Name?

**Tory.** Yes, yes, it is Sir T. P. that did confess he knew on't before-hand.

**Whig.** You have got him into the true Protestant Riot already, and now you wou'd be hooking him into the Popish Plot too, *Vid. Obs. N. 344.*

**Tory.** You know Sir Thomas Player was one of those Persons, that in the Year 1681 was guilty of the said Riot, (*Vid. Obs. N. 168, 170, 178.*) and his Confession of his fore-knowledge of the firing of the City of London, cannot draw him into the Popish Plot, he being a Fanatick, it was a Fanatical Confession, which easily proves it to be a Fanatical Plot, and not a Popish one.

**Whig.** You say true, for his Confession agreeing with Oates and Bellows, and with the Twelve Conspirators aforesaid. And also the Attempts of the Dutch, in conjunction with the English, plainly proves it to be a Plot of a Medley of Protestants of both Nations, that did this treacherous and most barbarous Villany.

**Tory.** True; for Sir Thomas and his Confederates in the Year 1661. viz. Colonel Scot, and his Confederates in Ireland, in the Year 1663. And if Corry and his Confederates in Ireland, in the same Year, were all of them in Arms, and taken, try'd, condemn'd, and executed, as Millenarists and Republicans, and found engaged in such Designs to destroy the King, and his Government, by their own Confession. Certainly here are Plots and Conspiracies enough to clear the point of several Fanatical Rebellions that were committed in the Years aforesaid. And if the Tryals, Confessions, and Confessions of the said four Persons for attempting to fire the City of London in 1662, and of those eight Persons in 1666, with the Dutches burning the King and Queen, &c. in Effigy in Ireland; also the Dutch Prisoners catch'd in the very Action, attempting to burn the City of Bristol. And likewise the Dutch and English in conjunction, and on board their Fleet, did first fire to the Navy Royal in Chatham. I say, if these Attempts and Actions goes for anything, together with the Confession of Sir Thomas Player, and also the Evidence of Dr. Oates and Bellows, that they not only helped to fire the City of London, but Scotland and Wapping. The Fanatical Conspiracies, or the aforesaid Plots, with the Medley of Protestants of both Nations (joining their Conjunction with the Dutch) are so fully made out as (those Rebels) were in the Years aforesaid. And I hope, Gentlemen, you that glory so much in the Name of Protestants, will certainly believe that Gentleman's Confession, as also the validity of two such famous Protestant Evidences now, because heretofore you have taken such great Pains and indefatigable Care to revive their Characters, by endeavouring to prove several Persons suborn'd, that wou'd have villanously taken away their unspotted Reputations; and therefore out of their own Mouths, they do abundantly confirm what I have proved from the Gazettes, Records, Sermons, Speeches, Confessions, Tryals, and their Predictions; that by the great Blaze this Fire



Fire has made, it has clearly brought to light this mysterious and villanous Plot, which has lain so long as a Secret from the World, and fairly proved it to be a Plot of a Medley of English Protestants in Conjunction with their dear Allies the Dutch, that did not only burn London, Wapping, and Southwark, and their Majesty's the King and Queen, &c. in Effigie in *Wapping*, but also his Majesty's Fleet, as it lay disarmed in *Chatham*.

Therefore upon the whole matter, I have taken off at once that ugly, foul, and unpardonable Scandal and Ignominy (upwards of 40 Years last past) Traitorously cast upon the

Royal Person of his Majesty's most sacred Uncle and Father; but also have cleared the whole Body of the *Common Catholics*, from having a hand in that cruel and unchristian Confiscation. And there's nothing now remaining, but that this Relation be the Inscription to be placed on this *Protestant Monument*, that after Ages may remember these most cursed and barbarous Proceedings, was committed by a Company of monstrous Villains, call'd Protestants, who after they had fired the City, did basely (to screen themselves and the Dutch from that Odium) cast that most horrid Villany on the Papists.

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